

rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over *Gattis*, *Steinka*, and *Hata et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 5,351,076).

In furtherance to a telephone conversation between the Examiner and Applicant's representative during which the Examiner stated that claim 1 would be allowable if it was re-written to include limitations of dependent claims 2-5, Applicant has amended the claims in the manner suggested by the Examiner. Independent claims 13, 19, and 40 have been similarly amended. By conforming the claims in the manner suggested by the Examiner, Applicant expressly states that it is in no way acquiescing to the Examiner's grounds for rejection or acquiescing to the characterizations of the asserted references and claimed subject matter presented in the Office Action.

In summary, it is believed that the amendment to the claims clearly places the application in condition for allowance. Concurrence by the Examiner and early passage of the application to issue are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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By their Attorneys,

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